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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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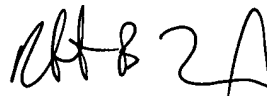
Re: United States Patent Application Under 35 U.S.C. §371
Based on International Patent Application No. PCT/EP99/08518
Our File No. 764-25397US

Dear Sir:

The above-identified PCT application was filed on 06 November 1999, with the United States as a designated country. Enclosed are copies of the following papers in support of a corresponding United States national stage application:

- Transmittal Letter to the United States Designated/Elected Office Concerning a Filing Under 35 U.S.C. §371
- English Translation of PCT Patent Application
- Formal Drawings
- English translation of amended Claims, acknowledged by the IPER to be allowable.
- Declaration and Power of Attorney
- Assignment

Respectfully submitted,



Robert B. Leonard
Registration No. 33,946

Date: March 26, 2001